Unspunnen
The ultimate traditional Swiss festival

70th Festival del film Locarno
The smallest festival poster in the world

Churfirsten
A magnificent panorama

125 years of the Brienz Rothorn railway

2/2017

Focus on stamps

The Collector's Magazine

SWISS POST

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for all "Focus on stamps" readers

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Expiry date (month/year) ☐☐☐☐

Date/Signature: _____

© Festival del film Locarno

© Pro Senectute

Great cinema, magnificent panoramas and a celebration of life and vitality. Some of the wide range of topics covered in this issue.

Dear Reader

We're delighted to bring you the latest issue of "Focus on stamps", which we've devoted to numerous anniversaries. In 2017, the Festival del film in Locarno is being held for the 70th time, the Pro Senectute Foundation is marking 100 years of providing services for the elderly and, believe it or not, the Brienz Rothorn railway – which was the highest steam-powered rack railway in the world at the time of construction – is celebrating 125 years in operation. This year we're also looking forward to the Unspunnen festival, which was first staged in 1805 and has been held every 12 years since 1946. This ultimate traditional Swiss festival takes place in Interlaken. Compared to the tradition of the Unspunnen festival, the ch Foundation with its 50 years' experience in federal cooperation seems relatively young.
Aside from all of these anniversaries, we can marvel at the impressive panorama of the Churfirsten mountain range on the new stamps, while the Pro Patria stamps with surcharge are dedicated to fortresses and castles, and we're once again entering the race for the most beautiful stamp in the PostEurop competition.

In Focus on stamps 4/2016, we introduced the scannable Christmas stamps. Have you had chance to try out the scan function yet? It is our goal to make all stamps scannable in future. You can read more about this on page 5. I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for your loyalty and I trust that you will enjoy browsing this latest issue of Focus on stamps.

Roman Heini
Head of Stamps
& Philately

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Cover: © OK Unspunnen

Swiss Post's cultural and social commitments rely on strong networking. Swiss Post not only sees itself as a sponsor, but also seeks to create genuine added value for the projects it supports. In doing so, both the partners and society as a whole benefit.

Special stamps with surcharge

Added value for everyone

Combining utility and support

By issuing special stamps with surcharge, Swiss Post is making an important contribution to raising funds for well-established foundations and projects with a cultural or social background, and in doing so conveys their message to the public at large.

A recent example of this is the stamp with surcharge which benefits the victims of compulsory social measures and forced fostering. The story of these victims is now being addressed and examined at the political and economic level. By issuing a special stamp with surcharge, Swiss Post is making an important contribution to raising awareness of this issue and encouraging discussion. All additional income from these special stamps will be channelled into the emergency aid fund for those affected.

This issue of Focus on stamps features the Pro Patria stamps as well as the special stamp with surcharge for the Pro Senectute Foundation.

Little things can have a big impact – the Swiss Post postage stamp fund

A certain amount of money from the sales of stamps with surcharge goes to the postage stamp fund to promote and support organizations and institutions with cultural and/or social objectives. Even seemingly small amounts can have a big impact.

Circus Wunderplunder is a great example of this. It brings the wonder of the circus to life for everyone. Here, anyone can become an artist. Circus Wunderplunder doesn't have a fixed circus programme. Every week is unique. There is no pressure to perform and no insistence on early artistic development. The focus here is on people – of any age – and their desire to have their day as a circus performer.

But what's a circus without a big top? Thanks to the generous support of the postage stamp fund for cultural and social commitment, Wunderplunder was able to purchase a desperately needed new circus tent and thus ensure the continuation of more than 30 years of Circus Wunderplunder history.

The postage stamp fund is currently supporting the following organizations and projects:

- Continuation of the humanrights.ch information platform
- Robinson children's circus
- Limita – Centre for the prevention of sexual exploitation of mentally handicapped young people
- Swiss Music Archives – collection and research of Swiss pop culture

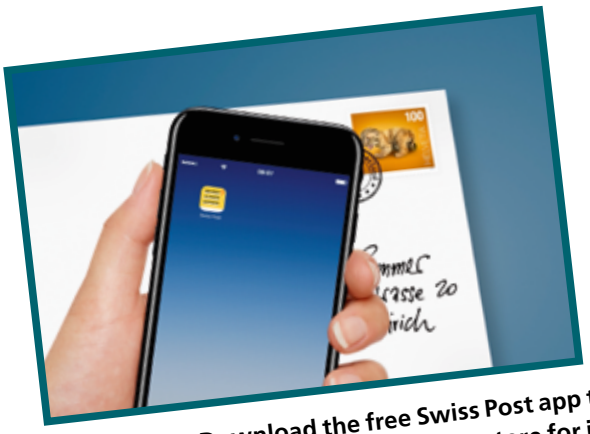
Kurt Strässle

More information on the postage stamp fund can be found at **https://www.post.ch/en/about-us/company/responsibility/commitment-and-promotion**

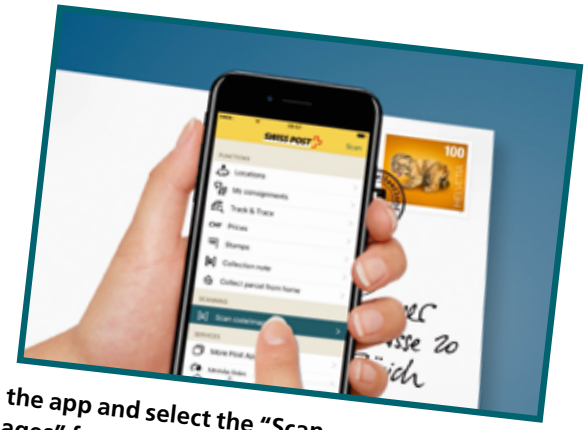
Stamps are becoming interactive

The Christmas stamps were just the start. With the Swiss Post app, you can now scan all stamps from issue 1/17 and find out some fascinating additional information.

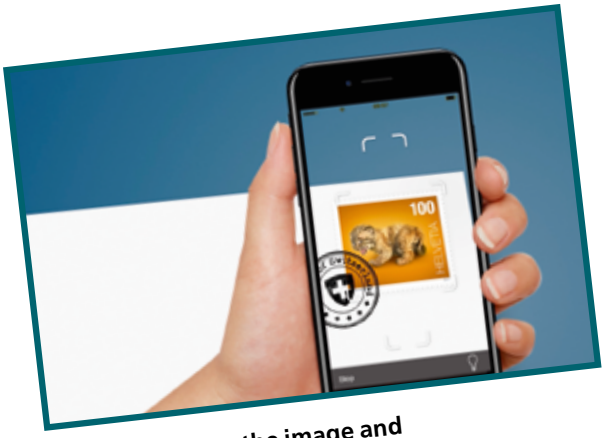
These days, there's more to stamps than meets the eye. If you have downloaded the Swiss Post app to your smartphone, you can now scan your stamps. This innovative function provides additional information on each individual stamp. For instance, users can find out more about the stamp theme, be entertained by moving images and enter a competition.



1. Download the free Swiss Post app to your smartphone (from the App store for iOS, via Google Play for Android).



2. Open the app and select the "Scan code/images" function.



3. Hold the camera over the image and the scan will begin automatically.

Video instructions:

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Stamp issues: 11.5.2017

The ultimate **traditional** Swiss festival

The Swiss festival of Unspunnen is a traditional celebration of Swiss mountain life and was first held in 1805. However, it only became a regular event in 1946 and has since taken place every 12 years. 2017 is one of the lucky years.

The Unspunnen Swiss wrestling event will take place on 26-27 August and will be followed by the main festival on 1-3 September. Spectators can look forward to seeing farmers in traditional Swiss costume, stone throwing, target shooting and the traditional Swiss sport of Hornussen, Alphorn players and flag bearers, folk musicians, choristers, dancers in traditional Swiss costume, yodellers and much more besides.

The anniversary stamp, which was suggested by the festival committee, combines the wealth of Swiss traditions in one image.

On Saturday, 2 September 2017, a special post office will be set up at the festival site in Interlaken. A special cancellation is also being designed to mark the event. Designer Mansing Tang from Wabern will be on site to sign autographs. An event souvenir including a special stamp selection is also planned.

100 days to the festival

The first issue of the "Unspunnen" special stamp will be released exactly 100 days before the start of the Unspunnen festival. Swiss Post and the Unspunnen festival committee will be marking the occasion in style on 11 May 2017 in Welle7 in Berne. You too can be there when the stamp is personally presented by the CEO of Swiss Post, Susanne Ruoff!
One of the highlights will be a live performance of Trauffer's Unspunnen song by a school choir with Barbara Klossner (Miss Helvetia).

Win exclusive VIP tickets to the event "100 days to the festival".
20 "Focus on stamps readers" have the unique opportunity to experience this event as a VIP guest. Alongside media representatives from all over Switzerland, you will receive exclusive information about the Unspunnen festival and enjoy a buffet before the stamp is revealed to a wider audience.

For more information on the event and how to participate, go to **postshop.ch/focus-on-stamps-online**

Order using the enclosed order form or at postshop.ch

Unspunnen

CHF 1.00

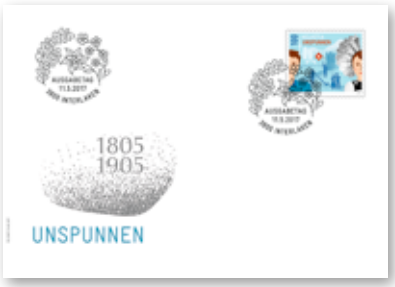
Single stamp
A158 150 ★
A158 550 ⊙
CHF 1.00

Block of four
A158 160 ★
A158 560 ⊙
CHF 4.00

Sheet of 20 stamps
A158 111 ★
A158 511 ⊙
CHF 20.00

Unstamped cover C6
A158 700
CHF 0.90

Key
★ = mint
⊙ = cancelled



Single stamp on first day cover C6
A158 580 ⊙ *only* *CHF 1.90*

Block of four on first day cover C6
A158 630 ⊙ *only* *CHF 4.90*

Folder/collection sheet
A158 640 ★
A158 650 ⊙ *CHF 1.80*

Sales
Philately: From 4.5.2017 to 30.6.2018, while stocks last
Post offices: From 11.5.2017, while stocks last

Validity
Unlimited from 11.5.2017

Printing
Offset, 4-colour; Cartor Security Printing La Loupe, France

Sizes
Stamp: 33×28 mm
Sheetlet: 194×140 mm (4 rows of 5 stamps)

Paper
White stamp paper with optical brightener, matt gummed, 110 gm²

Perforation
13¼:13½

Design
Mansing Tang, Wabern

First day cover motif

First day cancellation

Issuing programme

Date of issue: 7 September 2017 • Featured in: Focus on stamps 3/2017 dated 28 July 2017

No.	Value	Description
2	**2.00**	**Special stamps Emoji**
	1.00	Sunglasses
	1.00	Group
1	**1.00**	**Special stamp** Letter vs. e-mail – Selfie

No.	Value	Description
4	**5.60**	**Definitive stamps Swiss railway stations**
	1.10	Appenzell
	1.30	Zug
	1.40	Interlaken Ost
	1.80	Scuol-Tarasp
1	**2.00**	**Miniature sheet** Quince scent

No.	Value	Description
1	**1.00**	**Miniature sheet** Typical Swiss countryside – Creux du Van
1	**0.85**	**Miniature sheet** 150 years of Tübli letters

Subject to change. You can always find the latest version at www.swisspost.ch/stamps.
Version: February 2017

No.	Value	Description
3	**4.50**	**Special stamps Postcrossing**
	1.00	Costumes group
	1.50	Cow
	2.00	Alphorn player
2	**2.00**	**Special stamps 500 years Bern Cathedral vaulted ceiling**
	1.00	Vaulted ceiling
	1.00	Statue

Events calendar

Month	Key	Date	Town	Occasion
May	**I**	**11.5**		**Issue date**
	F/E	11–13.5	Essen	27th International Stamp Fair
July	F	28.7		Focus on stamps 3/2017: The Collector's Magazine
August	F/E	25–27.8.	's-Hertogenbosch	Multilaterale Hertogpost 2017

Key
I Issue date for stamps/postal stationery
F Focus on Stamps (stamps magazine)
F/E Fair/Exhibition

Subject to changes and additions.
You can always find the latest version at www.swisspost.ch/stamps.

The **smallest festival poster** in the world

The Festival del film Locarno lays claim to being one of the oldest film events with one of the biggest screens in the world. It will be taking place for the 70th time from 2–12 August 2017.

Every summer, Locarno's intimate Piazza Grande becomes a Mecca for film buffs. Thousands of fans and filmmakers come together to enjoy a high-quality programme full of surprises. Talented young artists join famous guests and well-established celebrities from the industry. The audience is the beating heart of this festival, which attracts up to 8,000 spectators to the Piazza Grande each evening.

During the course of its 70-year history, the Festival del film Locarno has welcomed countless international stars. Marlene Dietrich, Jean-Luc Godard, Quentin Tarantino, Olivia Wilde, Sir Anthony Hopkins, Juliette Binoche, Jane Birkin, Edward Norton, to name but a few.

Locarno has also created stars. Back in 1948, in the festival's second year, Roberto Rossellini was awarded the main prize, the Golden Leopard. Several decades later, a talented young director by the name of Stanley Kubrick was discovered. Five years after that came an unknown director from the Czech Republic – none other than Miloš Forman. Locarno also proved to be a pivotal venue for Mike Leigh, Spike Lee and Jim Jarmusch.

The special stamp was designed by the festival's artist in accordance with exacting corporate design specifications. Naturally it features the festival's trademark, the leopard – and thus constitutes the world's smallest film poster.

© Festival del film Locarno

Don’t miss it: Take a look at postshop.ch/focus-on-stamps-online from 11 May 2017 and win attractive festival prizes!

70th Festival del film Locarno

CHF 1.00

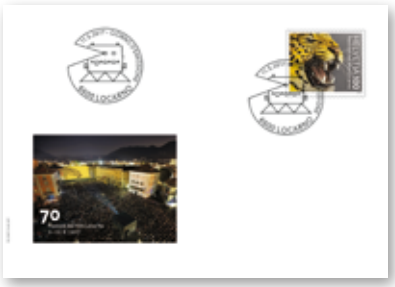
Single stamp
A152 150 ★
A152 550 ⊙
CHF 1.00

Block of four
A152 160 ★
A152 560 ⊙
CHF 4.00

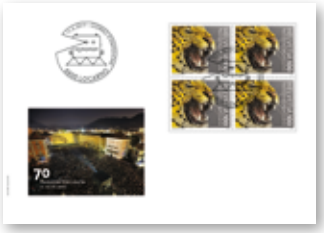
Sheet of 20 stamps
A152 111 ★
A152 511 ⊙
CHF 20.00

Unstamped cover C6
A152 700
CHF 0.90

Key
★ = mint
⊙ = cancelled



Single stamp on first day cover C6
A152 580 ⊙ *only* *CHF 1.90*



Block of four on first day cover C6
A152 630 ⊙ *only* *CHF 4.90*

Folder/collection sheet
A152 640 ★
A152 650 ⊙ *CHF 1.80*

Sales
Philately: From 4.5.2017 to 30.6.2018, while stocks last
Post offices: From 11.5.2017, while stocks last

Validity
Unlimited from 11.5.2017

Printing
Offset, 4-colour; Cartor Security Printing La Loupe, France

Sizes
Stamp: 33×28 mm
Sheetlet: 194×140 mm (4 rows of 5 stamps)

Paper
White stamp paper with optical brightener, matt gummed, 110 gm²

Perforation
13¼:13½

Design
Jannuzzi Smith, Lamone

First day cover motif

First day cancellation

Nostalgia
with a view

The Brienz Rothorn railway (BRB) was commissioned in 1892, just 15 months after construction work began. At the time, it was the highest steam-powered rack railway in the world. The fascination with this railway remains to this day.

No fewer than 640 men, most of whom were Italians, were involved in the construction of this unique railway. The impressive altitude difference still astonishes visitors to this day. Covering a distance of just 7.6 kilometres, the train ride from Brienz (566 metres above sea level) to the dizzy heights of the Rothorn summit at 2,244 metres above sea level takes just under an hour and climbs no less than 1,678 metres. The breathtaking ascent is suitably impressive. The railway has an average gradient of 22.4% and a maximum gradient of 25% (equivalent to 1 in 4 in road terminology). This means that the railway climbs 25 metres for every 100 metres of track! The special stamp marking the 125th anniversary features the Number 5, a first-generation locomotive. It was built by the Swiss Locomotive- and Machine Works in Winterthur in 1891–1892. Following conversion and modification work in 1935–36 and 1990, it is still in use today. It requires 300 kg of coal and 2,000 litres of water to make the journey from Brienz up to the top of the Rothorn.

The designers of the special stamp have not shied away from the sooty, dirty and oily nature of this mechanical work of art. The sheet margin features a carriage in the characteristic red of the BRB. In the background is the view of the mountain panorama – on a clear day, you can see over 693 Alpine peaks from the Brienzer Rothorn.

The original poster of the opening in 1892 provides the basis for the picture postcard.

Reader offer

Discounted trip on the Brienz Rothorn railway!

This voucher entitles you to a discount of CHF 10.00 or CHF 5.00 (half-fare card and general rail pass) on the current ticket price.
One voucher per person. Redeemable at the valley station of the Brienz Rothorn railway until the end of the season (22 October 2017). This voucher cannot be used in conjunction with other offers.

Order using the enclosed order form or at postshop.ch

125 years of the Brienz Rothorn railway

CHF 1.00

Single stamp
A153 150 ★
A153 550 ⊙
CHF 1.00

Block of four
A153 160 ★
A153 560 ⊙
CHF 4.00

Sheetlet of 8 stamps
A153 311 ★
A153 351 ⊙
CHF 8.00

Key
★ = mint
⊙ = cancelled

Unstamped covers/sheetlets
C6 (162×114 mm)
A153 700
CHF 0.90

C5 (229×162 mm)
A153 701
CHF 1.20

Single stamp on first day cover C6
A153 580 ⊙ *only* *CHF 1.90*

Block of four on first day cover C6
A153 630 ⊙ *only* *CHF 4.90*

Folder/collection sheet
A153 640 ★
A153 650 ⊙
CHF 1.90

Sheetlet on first day cover C5
A153 590 ⊙ *only* *CHF 9.20*

Picture postcard
Face value CHF 1.00 + 1.00 for the card
A153 841 ★
A153 846 ⊙
CHF 2.00

Sales
Philately: From 4.5.2017 to 30.6.2018, while stocks last
Post offices: From 11.5.2017, while stocks last

Validity
Unlimited from 11.5.2017

Printing
Offset, 4-colour; Joh. Enschedé, Haarlem, Netherlands

Sizes
Stamp: 32.5×32.5 mm
Sheetlet: 192×115 mm (2 rows of 4 stamps)

Paper
White stamp paper with optical brightener, matt gummed, 110 gm²

Perforation
13¾:13¼

Design
Arnold & Braun Grafik Design, Lucerne

First day cover motif

First day cancellation

Many attractions

The Pro Senectute Foundation has been supporting elderly people and their relatives since 1917. This major milestone is being celebrated with a whole series of events and activities.

Pro Senectute is to be a guest at the Swiss National Day celebrations on the Rütli meadow on 1 August. There will also be a concert tour during which the Swiss Youth Symphony Orchestra will play along live to the classic Charlie Chaplin movie "Modern Times". And last but not least, Pro Senectute is going on tour (see box).
This anniversary stamp highlights the services provided by the institution in a positive visual language that conveys vitality and effortlessness. Proceeds from the surcharge will benefit the Foundation.

© Pro Senectute

Pro Senectute tour

The Foundation is going on tour in Switzerland in its anniversary year. The programme includes:
- SBB tickets on your smartphone: tips and tricks
- The biggest generation selfie in the world
- Useful information about new fixed-line telephony
- Stage show with surprise guests
- A hearing test with a difference

For more information, go to prosenectute.ch/100jahre

Order using the enclosed order form or at postshop.ch

100 years of Pro Senectute

CHF 1.00 (1.00+0.50)

Single stamp
A157 150 ★
A157 550 ⊙
CHF 1.50

Block of four
A157 160 ★
A157 560 ⊙
CHF 6.00

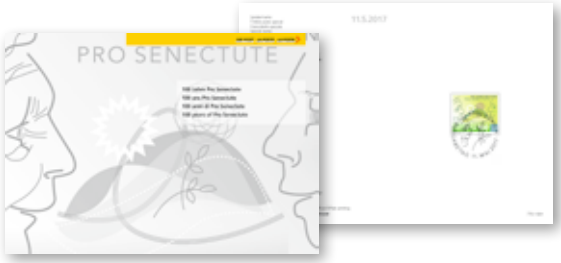
Sheet of 20 stamps
A157 111 ★
A157 511 ⊙
CHF 30.00

Unstamped cover C6
A157 700
CHF 0.90

Key
★ = mint
⊙ = cancelled

Single stamp on first day cover C6
A157 580 ⊙ *only* *CHF 2.40*

Block of four on first day cover C6
A157 630 ⊙ *only* *CHF 6.90*



Folder/collection sheet
A157 640 ★
A157 650 ⊙
CHF 2.30

Sales
Philately: From 4.5.2017 to 30.6.2018, while stocks last
Post offices: From 11.5.2017, while stocks last

Validity
Unlimited from 11.5.2017

Printing
Offset printing, 4-colour, Bagel Security Print, Düsseldorf, Germany

Sizes
Stamp: 33×28 mm
Sheetlet: 194×144 mm (4 rows of 5 stamps)

Paper
White stamp paper with optical brightener, matt gummed, 110 gm²

Perforation
13¼:13½

Design
Team Dänzer, Thun

First day cover motif

First day cancellation

War and peace

The only thing that these two castles really have in common is their immediate proximity to a lake. Visconti Castle in Locarno and Oberhofen Castle on the Lake of Thun are both motifs on this year's Pro Patria stamps.

While the 12th century Visconti Castle in Locarno has been besieged, captured and destroyed on numerous occasions, the castle of a similar age in Oberhofen can look back on a far more peaceful history.
Only around one fifth of the original site remains in Locarno. One can only imagine the size of the original fortress. The castle is now a museum.
The site in Oberhofen has changed hands on numerous occasions and has been converted and expanded over the centuries, first as a castle and later as a summer residence. It has been open to the public since 1954.

Pro Patria – Fortresses and castles of Switzerland

CHF 1.25 (0.85+0.40) Visconti Castle (Locarno, TI) • **CHF 1.50** (1.00+0.50) Oberhofen Castle (BE)

Order using the enclosed order form or at postshop.ch

Set
A154 150 ★
A154 550 ⊙
CHF 2.75

Set of blocks of four
A154 160 ★
A154 560 ⊙
CHF 11.00

Sheet of 20 stamps

0.85+0.40 Visconti Castle (Locarno, TI)
A154 111 ★
A154 511 ⊙
CHF 25.00

1.00+0.50 Oberhofen Castle (BE)
A154 112 ★
A154 512 ⊙
CHF 30.00

Unstamped cover C6
A154 700
CHF 0.90

Set on first day cover C6
A154 580 ⊙ *only* *CHF 3.65*

Single stamp on first day cover C6
(2 covers)
A154 600 ⊙ *only* *CHF 4.55*

Block of four on first day cover C6
(2 covers)
A154 630 ⊙ *only* *CHF 12.80*

Folder/collection sheet
A154 640 ★
A154 650 ⊙ *CHF 3.55*

Stamp booklet
4 stamps at CHF 0.85+0.40 with the motif "Visconti Castle (Locarno, TI)" and 6 stamps at CHF 1.00+0.50 with the motif "Oberhofen Castle (BE)"
A154 300 ★
A154 800 ⊙ *CHF 14.00*

Key
★ = mint
⊙ = cancelled

Sales
Philately: From 4.5.2017 to 31.12.2017, while stocks last
Post offices: From 11.5.2017 to 31.8.2017, while stocks last

Validity
Unlimited from 11.5.2017

Printing
Offset, 5-colour, scale + Pantone Gold
Cartor Security Printing, La Loupe, France

Sizes
Stamp: 33×28 mm
Sheetlet: 194×140 mm (4 rows of 5 stamps)

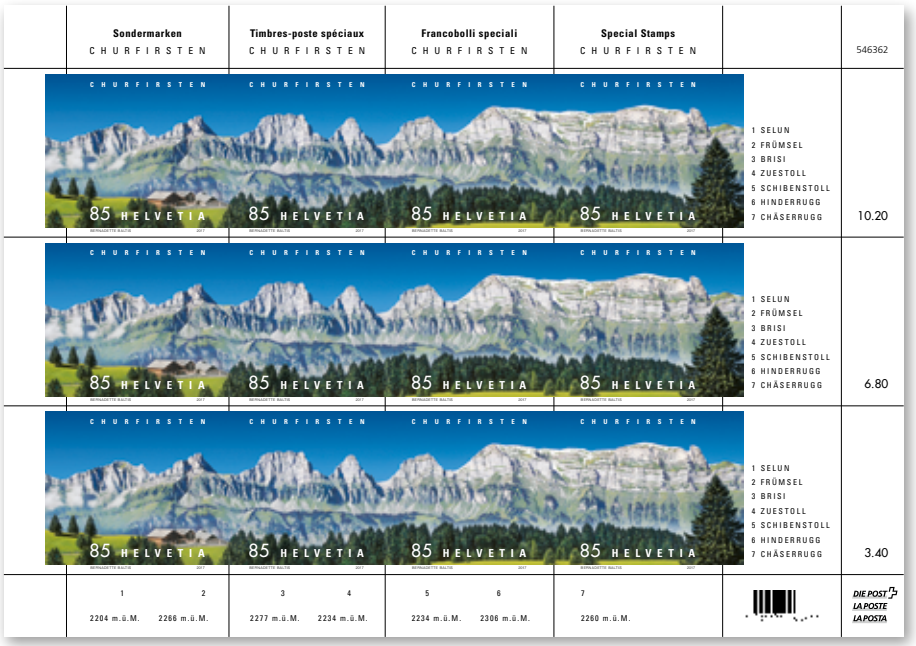
Paper
White stamp paper with optical brightener, matt gummed, 110 gm²

Perforation
13¼:13½

Design
Angelo Boog, Wallisellen

First day cover motif

First day cancellation



The panorama extends across the entire sheet.

A magnificent panorama

Churfirsten is a mountain range of incredibly jagged peaks that rise up to 2,306 metres above sea level over Lake Walen at 419 metres. The ridges to the north descend more gently towards Toggenburg.

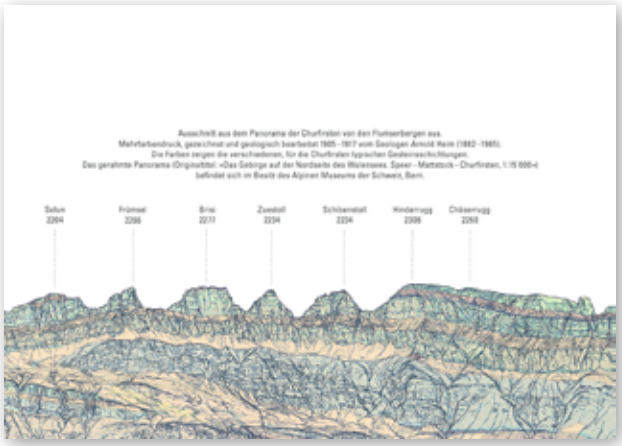
The Flumserberg mountains offer a particularly impressive view of the Churfirsten range. Indeed, it was this perspective that designer Bernadette Baltis chose for the special stamps.

The seven most famous peaks form a continuous panorama, split across four stamps. The vignette with the names of the individual mountain peaks is unique to the sheet. The mountain heights are also listed on the lower sheet margin.

Bernadette Baltis is an experienced stamp designer and created a panorama of the Eiger, Mönch and Jungfrau ten years ago. In her latest work, the impressive mountain peaks and the picture as a whole create a 3D effect. The striking horizontal geological strata can also be seen extremely clearly. This effect is created by the designer's special working methods. The design is based on more than a dozen photographs. These were combined to form a collage and painstakingly reworked by hand using coloured pencils. The designer left out insignificant elements and highlighted key details – the result is ultimately a drawing!

"Kuhfürsten"?

Many people have speculated about the unique name of this mountain range. Was it originally a mocking term which in German is a play on words: cow (Kuh) and elector prince (Kurfürst)? Or does it refer to a historical boundary of the bishopric of Chur? Or does the name have something to do with the seven electors of the Holy Roman Empire who were responsible for electing the King? There are arguments for and against in each case.



Reverse of FDC: The illustration on the reverse is an extract from "Das Gebirge auf der Nordseite des Walensees. Speer–Mattstock–Churfirsten, 1:15'000" The original picture can be found in the Swiss Alpine Museum in Berne.

Churfirsten

CHF 0.85 Selun-Frümsel • **CHF 0.85** Brisi-Zuestoll • **CHF 0.85** Schibenstoll-Hinderrugg • **CHF 0.85** Chäserrugg

Order using the enclosed order form or at postshop.ch

Set
A151 150 ★
A151 550 ⊙
CHF 3.40

Set of blocks of four
A151 160 ★
A151 560 ⊙
CHF 6.80

Sheet of 12 stamps
A151 111 ★
A151 511 ⊙
CHF 10.20

Set on first day cover E6
A151 580 ⊙ *only* *CHF 4.40*

Single stamp on first day cover C6
(4 covers)
A151 600 ⊙ *only* *CHF 7.00*

Block of four on first day cover C6
(2 covers)
A151 630 ⊙ *only* *CHF 8.60*

Unstamped covers

C6 (162×114 mm)
A151 700
CHF 0.90

E6 (200×140 mm)
A151 701
CHF 1.00

Folder/collection sheet
A151 640 ★
A151 650 ⊙ *CHF 4.20*

Key
★ = mint
⊙ = cancelled

Sales
Philately: From 4.5.2017 to 30.6.2018, while stocks last
Post offices: From 11.5.2017, while stocks last

Validity
Unlimited from 11.5.2017

Printing
Offset, 4-colour; Gutenberg AG, Schaan, Liechtenstein

Sizes
Stamp: 157.5×40.5 mm (39×40.5 mm, 37.5×40.5 mm, 40.5×40.5 mm, 40.5×40.5 mm)
Sheetlet: 216×151.5 mm (3 rows of 4 stamps)

Paper
White stamp paper with optical brightener, matt gummed, 110 gm²

Perforation
13¼

Design
Bernadette Baltis, Uerikon/Stäfa

First day cover motif

First day cancellation

Well-fortified sites

Sasso Corbaro, Montebello, Castelgrande are the sweet-sounding names of the three castles in Bellinzona. They are depicted on two special stamps designed in the context of the PostEurop competition.

Each year, the participating postal administrations design their entries based on a theme chosen by PostEurop. On each occasion, Swiss Post issues two stamps in a sheet. One of these is entered into PostEurop's international online competition. The competition will run from 9 May to 31 August 2017 at posteurop.org/europa2017.

Bellinzona's castles and their fortified walls form part of the UNESCO World Heritage Site. Their history dates back to the Palaeolithic Period. In the Middle Ages, they were initially intended to prevent the Swiss from gaining ground to the south. But in 1503, Bellinzona chose to withdraw from Milanese rule and instead joined the Swiss Confederation. In the following years the fortresses were used against the south.

Castelgrande – depicted on the right-hand stamp – is the oldest of the three castles and was first mentioned in 590. From 1506 it became the seat of the federal governors of Canton Uri.

Castello Montebello is the fortification in the middle. It was built towards the end of the 13th century, just as the Gotthard Pass was becoming the most important route across the Alps. It was home to the governors of Canton Schwyz.

Castello di Sasso Corbaro, shown on the left, is the smallest and newest of the three castles, but enjoys the most elevated position. In 1506 the castle fell into the hands of Canton Nidwalden and remained there until it was passed on to newly founded Canton Ticino in 1803.

Switzerland and its neighbouring countries are issuing a special joint product again this year. The joint product contains the original stamps from Switzerland, Germany, Austria, Liechtenstein, Luxembourg, the Netherlands and the respective first day cancellations. The beautifully designed booklet is a must for all stamp lovers!

Europa – Castles

CHF 1.00 Sasso Corbaro & Montebello • **CHF 1.00** Castelgrande

Order using the enclosed order form or at postshop.ch

Set
A155 150 ★
A155 550 ⊙
CHF 2.00

Block of four
A155 160 ★
A155 560 ⊙
CHF 4.00

Sheet of 16 stamps*
A155 111 ★
A155 511 ⊙
CHF 16.00

* The sheet comprises 8 stamps with the motifs "Sasso Corbaro & Montebello" and "Castelgrande"; not available separately.

Set on first day cover C6
A155 580 ⊙ *only* *CHF 2.90*

Single stamp on first day cover C6
(2 covers)
A155 600 ⊙ *only* *CHF 3.80*

Block of four on first day cover C6
A155 630 ⊙ *only* *CHF 4.90*

Folder/collection sheet
A155 640 ★
A155 650 ⊙ *CHF 2.80*

Joint product
Multilateral set of Switzerland, by Germany, Austria, Liechtenstein, Luxembourg and the Netherlands, featuring the 10 Europa special stamps. Article available in German only.
A155 990 ★ *only* *CHF 17.00*

This product is not delivered as part of a standing order. Note: delivery may be delayed by several days once this product becomes part of the order.

Unstamped cover C6
A155 700
CHF 0.90

Key
★ = mint
⊙ = cancelled

Sales
Philately: From 4.5.2017 to 30.6.2018, while stocks last
Post offices: From 11.5.2017 to 30.6.2018, while stocks last

Validity
Unlimited from 11.5.2017

Printing
Offset, 4-colour, scale;
Gutenberg AG, Schaan, Liechtenstein

Sizes
Stamp: 40×28 mm
Sheetlet: 190×142 mm (4 rows of 5 stamps)

Paper
White stamp paper with optical brightener, matt gummed, 110 gm²

Perforation
13¼:13½

Design
Davide Ackermann, Lugano

First day cover motif

First day cancellation

Spotlight on federalism

The 26 Swiss cantonal coats of arms provided the basis for one of Switzerland's most fundamental concepts – federalism.

The ch Foundation for federal cooperation was founded in 1967 as a foundation under private law and is sponsored by all 26 Swiss cantons. It is committed to the concept of federalism. As a well-connected institution, it also promotes bridge-building between the cantons and different linguistic communities of Switzerland, and provides services for the cantons.
The design of the special stamp marking the 50th anniversary of the ch Foundation had a specific mission to fulfil – to represent unity in diversity in a contemporary way. St. Gallen illustrator Sylvia Geel created an illustration using the colours and shapes of all 26 Swiss cantonal coats of arms. She broke down the design of the individual coats of arms to create one overall composition that visualizes diversity in unity.

50 years ch Foundation (for federal cooperation)

CHF 1.00

Order using the enclosed order form or at postshop.ch

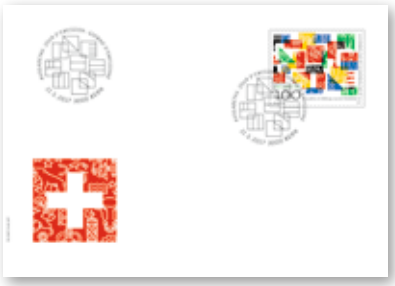
Single stamp
A156 150 ★
A156 550 ⊙
CHF 1.00

Block of four
A156 160 ★
A156 560 ⊙
CHF 4.00

Sheet of 16 stamps
A156 111 ★
A156 511 ⊙
CHF 16.00

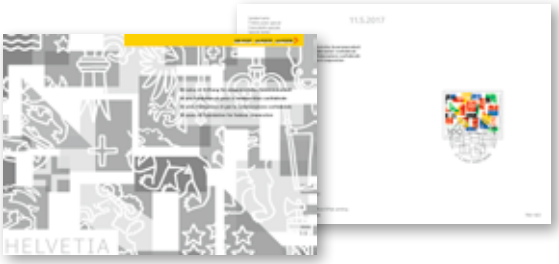
Key ★ = mint ⊙ = cancelled

Unstamped cover C6
A156 700
CHF 0.90



Single stamp on first day cover C6
A156 580 ⊙ *only* *CHF 1.90*

Block of four on first day cover C6
A156 630 ⊙ *only* *CHF 4.90*



Folder/collection sheet
A156 640 ★
A156 650 ⊙
CHF 1.80

Sales
Philately: From 4.5.2017 to 30.6.2018, while stocks last
Post offices: From 11.5.2017, while stocks last

Validity
Unlimited from 11.5.2017

Printing
Offset, 4-colour; Cartor Security Printing La Loupe, France

Sizes
Stamp: 40×32.5 mm
Sheetlet: 192.5×163 mm (4 rows of 4 stamps)

Paper
White stamp paper with optical brightener, matt gummed, 110 gm²

Perforation
13¼:13½

Design
Sylvia Geel, St. Gallen

First day cover motif

First day cancellation

Colourful stamps
selected for you

Annual and special products

Order using the enclosed order form or at postshop.ch

Set of single stamps, 2/2017 edition
The single stamps and sets in the 2/2017 issue of 11.5.2017 are displayed on a free A5 backing card and protected with cellophane wrapping.
A150 150 ★
A150 550 ⊙ *CHF 13.65*

2016 year set
All 48 Swiss stamps for the year (without special event stamp), clearly laid out on handy display cards with transparent protective sleeve.
A123 320 ★
A123 820 ⊙ *CHF 59.75*

Set of first day covers, 2/2017 edition
The first day covers with single stamps and sets in the 2/2017 issue of 11.5.2017 are combined in one free cover.
A150 580 ⊙ *only* *CHF 20.95*

2016 year set of first day covers
All 26 first day covers (FDCs) of the year (without special event stamp) – including the single stamps, sets and miniature sheets with the respective first day cancellations.
A123 530 ⊙ *only* *CHF 88.45*

Also available on standing order!
Tel.: +41 848 66 55 44
E-mail: stamps@swisspost.ch

2016 year book of Swiss stamps
As a valuable contemporary document the year book presents all 49 Swiss stamps (including the special event stamp) along with all the first day cancellations and an exclusive black print, on 100 pages in four languages(Ge/Fr/It/En).
A124 830 ★
A124 831 ⊙ *CHF 69.00*

Key ★ = mint ⊙ = cancelled

2017 stamp catalogues

Zumstein Switzerland/ Liechtenstein/ UN Geneva
German/French
A113 725
CHF 35.00

Swiss Stamp Dealers Assoc. Switzerland / Liechtenstein/UN Geneva
German/French
A113 787
CHF 37.00

The stamp catalogues are only available in Switzerland and Liechtenstein.

Stamp collector starter set

Everything you need for collecting stamps packed in a yellow rucksack (41×33 cm):

– Collection poster with instructions on how to collect stamps (A3)
– Display cards
– Drying book
– Magnifying glass
– Tweezers
– Perforation gauge
– Used stamps for soaking off
– Stamp catalogue
– Information about subscribing to "Tell me what you collect"

1558 901 (German) *CHF 29.00*

The Stamp collector starter set can only be delivered in Switzerland and Liechtenstein.

1

Jubilee commemorative Swiss coin

„125 years railway Brienz-Rothorn“!

Ø 30 mm

- Swiss art of coinage with four-color enamel plating „125 years railway Brienz-Rothorn“!
- Worldwide limited edition of 5.000 samples!
- You pay only Fr. 5.- instead of Fr. 19.95!

only **Fr. 5.-**
instead of Fr. 19.95

Swiss commemorative coin with mineral glass core „Last Swissair scheduled flight 15 years ago“!

The last Swissair scheduled flight SR145 coming from Sao Paulo landed in Zurich April 1st 2002, 15 years ago. With this worldwide limited Swiss commemorative coin with mineral glass core, we dignify in a special way the last swissair flight back to the home country Switzerland.

2.

- World innovation for the last Swissair flight SR145 from Sao Paulo to Zurich! With four-color mineral glass core!
- Subject: visible from both sides!
- Limited edition: only 2.000 samples!

only **Fr. 14.90**
instead of Fr. 69.90

3

First „Lederhosen“-stamp with Swarovski crystals!

New!

Austria,
Nominal value: € 6,30,
Original size:
35 x 42 mm

Official leather stamp from Austria in Tyrolean leather trousers-shape, decorated with 6 (!) Swarovski crystals!

only **Fr. 12.90**

4

The first glass stamp!

Original size: 32 x 45 x 2 mm

- New special stamp from Austria „Virgin of Pity under the Cross“! (in mint condition)
- Official limited edition of only 140.000 samples!

only **Fr. 9.90**

5

First embroidery-stamp dirndl-shaped!

- The first official embroidery-stamp from Austria, dirndl-shaped!
- About forty meters of thread have been used to realise this tiny philatelic piece of art!
- Fine new quality!

Original size: 31 x 50 mm

only **Fr. 9.90**

My order

Yes, please send me following start editions and monthly another edition from the respective collection without obligation and for inspection. I do have a refund policy of 14 days for all deliveries!

1. ___ x Swiss art of coinage with four-color enamel plating **„125 years railway Brienz-Rothorn“** for **only Fr. 5.-!**
2. ___ x Swiss commemorative coin with mineral glass core **„Last Swissair scheduled flight 15 years ago“** for **only Fr. 14.90!**
3. ___ x **First leather stamp in leather trousers-shape** with 6 Swarovski crystals (new) for **only Fr. 12.90!**
4. ___ x **First glass stamp** „Virgin of Pity under the cross“ (new) for **only Fr. 9.90!**
5. ___ x **First embroidery-stamp dirndl-shaped** (new) for **only Fr. 9.90!**
6. ___ x Silver stamp **„170 years Mauritius“** (999/1000 fine silver, proof) for **only Fr. 10.-!**
7. ___ x Swiss silver coin **„Matterhorn“** (999/1000 fine silver, 20 grams, proof) for **only Fr. 20.-** instead of Fr. 89.90!

Please fill in your name and address!

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Address/number

Postcode/place

Date of birth

Phone number

X Signature n4f/baxb

Trust guarantee:
Of course you can cancel your order at any time without problems. Just send a letter, e-mail, fax or phone us.

(Delivery excl. postage costs - postage, packing, insurance - Sold out reserve)

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Hardhofstrasse 15
8424 Embrach ZH
or fax: 044 865 70 85
E-Mail: service@srh-ltd.ch

Swiss silver coin „Matterhorn“

7.

Ø 40 mm

Fr. 20.-
instead of Fr. 89.90

The most famous stamp of the world

„170 years Mauritius“ in 999/1000 fine silver!

Original size: 21 x 25 mm

6.

only **Fr. 10.-**

- This silver stamp (999/1000 fine silver) has been modelled original faithful on the real stamp „Blue Mauritius“!
- Highest quality of coinage: proof!
- Restricted edition: only 5.000 pieces!